**Global Tender for Dredging Operation in India**

1333. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Global tender is permitted for dredging in Indian ports; and

(b) if so, whether the bidders are allowed to use their own dredgers for dredging?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) yes, Sir.

**Dredging Operation at Kandla Port**

1334. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kandla Port Trust has formulated a plan or project for dredging the silt;

(b) if so, the estimated cost thereof;

(c) whether the National Ship Design Research Centre has been asked to design the dredger for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the present position and the total time revised to build-up the dredger and to hand over the same to the Kandla Port Trust?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes Sir. Kandla Port Trust (KPT) had formulated a plan to acquire a new dredger in replacement of an old one for carrying out maintenance dredging.

(b) The estimated cost of acquisition was about Rs. 151 crores (based on March 1998 price level).

(c) National Ship Design Research Centre (NSDRC) was assigned the task of preparation of feasibility report, covering the prehminary design wi:h outline specification for the proposed dredger.

(d) The proposal for acquisition of the dredger has not been

considered and the maintenance dredging requirement of KPT is presently being met by the Dredging Corporation of India (DCI).

**Declaration of New National Highways In Gujarat**

1335. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) The details of the State Highways in Gujarat for which the State Government has sent a proposal to the Central Government for declaring them as National Highways;

(b) out of them, how many have been declared as National Highways;

(c) the timp by which the remaining State Highways will be declared as National Highways;

(d) whether some of the Highways are to be declared in the Ninth Five Year Plan as National Highways; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Statement-I giving details is enclosed. *{See* below)

(b) Statement-II giving details is enclosed. *{See* below)

(c) and (d) As of now, there is no proposal to declare any more new NH in the balance period of 9th Five Year Plan.

(e) Does not arise.